

Manager Vada O
Form 4
December 19, 2011

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Manager Vada O

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ASHLAND INC. [ASH]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
8203 WATERSIDE COURT
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/15/2011

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Ownership Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|-------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Price | | | |
| | | | | Code | V | Amount | (D) | Price |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|--|
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|--|

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| Derivative Security | | | Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------|---|-----------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------|
| | | | Code | V (A) (D) | | | | | |
| Restricted Stock Units | <u>(1)</u> | 12/15/2011 | <u>J</u> ⁽²⁾ | 59 | <u>(3)</u> | <u>(3)</u> | Common Stock | 59 | \$ 54.8 |
| Common Stock Units | \$ 0 <u>(4)</u> | 12/15/2011 | <u>J</u> ⁽⁵⁾ | 1 | <u>(6)</u> | <u>(6)</u> | Common Stock | 1 | \$ 54.8 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Manager Vada O 8203 WATERSIDE COURT FORT WASHINGTON, MD 20744 | X | | | |

Signatures

/s/ David A. Rines,
Attorney-in-Fact
Date: 12/19/2011

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Each Restricted Stock Unit represents a right to receive one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.
Restricted Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Plan") as of 12-15-11 and exempt from Rule 16b-3. (One (1) Restricted Stock Unit in the Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.)
- (2) Subject to any deferral election on timing of distribution by the reporting person under the Plan, the reporting person may, prior to vesting, elect to receive the Restricted Stock Units in Common Stock or cash upon separation from service as a director.
- (3) 1-for-1
Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Plan") as of 12-15-2011 and exempt under Rule 16b-3. (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Plan is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.)
- (4) Subject to any deferral election on timing of distribution by the reporting person under the Plan, the Common Stock Units are payable in Common Stock upon the reporting person's separation from service as a director.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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